GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:82
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2007
CLOSURE OF COAL MINES
Mahto Shri Tek Lal;Mehta Shri Bhubneshwar Prasad

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to close down 60 Underground Mines as reported in the Business Standard dated November 5, 2007;

(b) if so, the company-wise details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of workers working in the mines, company-wise and the scheme formulated for the rehabilitation of the affected workers; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for production and supply of the requisite quantum of Coal in the event of closure of these mines?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS MENTIONED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 82 FOR ANSWER ON 21.11.2007 ASKED BY SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO AND SHRI BHUBNESWAR PRASAD MEHTA REGARDING CLOSURE OF COAL MINES.

(a) to (d): The news item that appeared in the Business Standard, Kolkata on 5th November, 2007 seems to be in reference to the Apex Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) meeting held on 03.11.2007, where information with respect to loss making underground mines was shared with the Apex JCC members. No decision has been taken regarding closure of mines as reported. Measures proposed to step up coal production include opening of new projects and optimization of capacity of existing coal mines by adopting various methods such as mechanization, systems improvement etc.